

Question: I was wondering if you would consider revising the HUBZone subcontracting goals higher on this work (closer to 3%) since there we are qualified to perform this work?

Answer: Subcontracting goals were determined by an analysis of subcontracting work by the Contracting Officer, Industrial Assistance Office, and Small Business Administration, on the current contract (NNG11VM00C- GSMO) as well as contracts of similar work, type, and value. There are no plans to revise the goal at this time.

Question: Does NASA Plan to Host an Industry Day to provide non-incumbent offeror's insight into the various work centers at GSFC support by the GSMO-2 Contract?

Answer: There is no plan to host an Industry Day. An interested parties list was posted to the www.fedbizopps.gov website on December 30, 2015.

Question: Please provide an update to the planned solicitation schedule to aid offerors in planning for proposal response and submission.

Answer: The Formal RFP date is estimated to be mid-February.

Question: Please confirm that NPR 7150.2 B, NASA SW Engineering Requirements is applicable. If so, recommend adding it to the SOW list of applicable documents.

Answer: NASA Software Engineering Requirements (NPR 7150.2B) is not considered an "applicable document" to the overall contract SOW. Note that GSMO-2 is primarily an operations contract. Any specific software engineering certification requirements will be issued at a task level, not contract level.

Regarding the "applicable documents list" in the GSMO-2 SOW, the list will include three additional references:

GPR-5340.2 (Control of Process Nonconformances),

GPR-5340.4 (Problem Reporting and Problem Failure Reporting),

GPR-5340.5 (On-Orbit Anomaly Management)

Question: Will NASA consider eliminating the language for identifying "significant subcontractors" and permit offerors to include relevant past performance for identified teammates regardless of potential / planned workshare? For example, allow the inclusion of 10 past performance citations of which at least five must be for the prime.

Reference: Section L.15

Answer: No.

Question: Please confirm that all that is required to adequately respond to the scenarios is for the offerors to identify the Technical and Management challenges and provide rationale. For example, confirm that we are not required to discuss a complete ground system development effort in our scenario 2 and 4 responses.

Reference: Section L.13

Answer: NASA is not looking for cost plans for the scenarios. Detailed narratives on the technical and managerial challenges are expected.

Question: Please confirm that there are no requirements to identify key personnel by name and/or submit resumes?

Reference: Section L.13

Answers: There is no requirement to identify key personnel by name and/or submit resumes.

Question: Please elaborate how transition and contract phase-in will be evaluated in terms of technical and management approach, risk, and cost?

Reference: Section L.13

Answers: “The offeror shall provide a detailed phase-in plan that addresses, at a minimum, the offeror's approach to phase-in sufficient to ensure continuity and a smooth transition with the incumbent Contractor during the 45 day phase-in period. The phase-in plan shall clearly demonstrate an ability to assume full contract responsibility on the effective date of the contract. The phase-in plan shall also specifically address how ongoing work will be maintained, the proposed management organization, schedule, orientation and training of personnel. If the effort involves onsite performance, the offeror shall address their preparation for the timely processing of the Personal Identify Verification (PIV) requirements. If the phase-in plan assumes any dependency upon the incumbent contractor, please identify. Also, specify the extent of involvement of NASA personnel during this period. The 45 day phase-in period will be accomplished through the issuance of a separate Firm Fixed Price contract.” Reference Section L page- 110

“The Government will evaluate the offeror’s detailed phase-in plan for reasonableness, realism, and likelihood of successful implementation.” Reference Section M page- 140

“Exhibit 8 Phase-In Costs”

Question: The referenced paragraph states, “ The Contractor shall be able to provide/obtain spacecraft and payload vendor sustaining engineering support, special analysis, and anomaly investigation support.” What are NASA’s expectations for using and funding subcontractor SMEs, etc. for anomaly resolution support? Will this support be provided on a task order basis only?

Reference: D-SOW Paragraph 3.7.1

Answer: All support on GSMO-2 is on a task order basis. Anomaly Resolution Support is issued as needed on a task order basis.

Question: Can NASA provide a list of open DRs, ECs, etc., in backlog that may potentially be turned over to the GSMO-2 contractor for resolution? Can workload data be provided that identifies the expected level-of-effort for this type of Sustaining Engineering support?

Reference: D-SOW

Answer: At the moment a list of open DRs, ECs, etc. in backlog that may potentially be turned over to the GSMO-2 contractor has not been identified. The statements of work from the task orders under the current GSMO contract along with their respective task values will be made available in the e-Library

Question: The referenced RFP section states, “The Offeror shall also include the company’s escalation history for each other cost element experienced in the past three years.” Please clarify what other cost elements are expected to have escalation history.”

Reference: Section L.14 2.(a)

Answer: Other Cost Elements are dependent on each Offeror. If Section L.14.2(a) addresses all the Cost Elements that an Offeror would propose, then no additional Cost Element escalation history is expected.

Question: The referenced paragraph states, “Any Offeror proposing to use the incumbent workforce must use the incumbent labor rates provided in Enclosure CC for those labor categories for which rates are available to develop the proposed estimated cost.” Can NASA please provide the incumbent rates (Enclosure CC) we are required to use if we are bidding current personnel. Does this requirement only apply to wage determination rates? Please clarify.

Reference: Section L.14 2.a

Answer: Enclosure CC has been uploaded to www.fedbizopps.gov as of January 4, 2016.

Question: Subfactor A instructions state, “The offeror’s response should include proven efficiencies, or innovative technologies. The offerors response should maximize technical performance while minimizing costs.” Please clarify how offerors are to show reduced costs in the Cost Volume when hours are essentially specified? Please clarify how technical performance is measured?

Reference: Section L.13

Answer: GSMO-2 is an IDIQ contract with requirements issued and fulfilled on an as needed task basis. Subfactor A within Mission Suitability measures an offeror’s technical capability to fulfill those tasks effectively and efficiently. One of the purposes of the Cost Volume is to determine an overall possible value for the contract. These are distinctly separate issues. Ex) A \$5Million Task that is able to accomplish 10 widget requirements by hand under a \$100 Million IDIQ vs. A \$2Million Task that is able to accomplish 40 widget requirements utilizing a CNC machine under a \$125Million IDIQ Contract)

Please see p. 139 under section M. *“The Government will evaluate the offeror's technical approach for its demonstrated understanding of the principal requirements. The Government will evaluate the proposed techniques and procedures for their ability to satisfy the principal SOW requirements in an efficient and effective manner. The principal requirements are identified as WBS 2.4 (inclusive of all sub-levels), 3.3, and 3.7 (inclusive of all sub-levels).*

The Government will evaluate the offeror's identified significant potential risks under this contract, as a whole, and also the risk management techniques that will be used to manage identified risks during contract performance for realism, likelihood of successful implementation, likelihood of successful risk mitigation, thorough understanding and efficiency."

Question: Please clarify if an Award Fee Plan is required to be submitted with our proposal response? The referenced D-RFP instruction states, "The offeror shall describe their approach to using award fee to motivate successful contract performance, including a discussion of the proposed award fee percentage and approach to utilizing award fee performance feedback and earned award fee amounts."

Reference: Section L.13

Answer: No. An Award Fee Plan is not required for submission. "The offeror shall describe their approach to using award fee to motivate successful contract performance, including a discussion of the proposed award fee percentage and approach to utilizing award fee performance feedback and earned award fee amounts."

Question: Please clarify the requirements specified in SOW 3.7.1 Flight Segment – what are the Special Analysis as referred to in the referenced paragraph?

Reference: Section D-SOW, Paragraph 3.7.1

Answer: "Special analysis" refers to unique engineering analysis that may be applicable to various spacecraft being operated under the GSMD-2 contract. For example, a task may require the trending and analysis of telemetry for an aging spacecraft actuator.

Question: The referenced paragraph states the current contract, its modifications and recent task orders will be available at <http://elibrary.gsfc.nasa.gov>. When will this information be available?

Reference: Section L.16

Answer: This information will be posted by January 15, 2015.

Question: Section L.14 GSFC 52.215-223 Cost Volume Instructions (JUN 2015) – Page 125, 2.(b), first paragraph states: "The direct labor and indirect rates and fee percentages included in Attachment B are "not to exceed" bid rates." Please confirm reimbursement is on a cost basis irrespective of the direct and indirect rates cited in Attachment B. (It is understood contractor must execute performance within the cost ceiling established for each TO.)

Reference: Section L.14

Answer: This understanding is correct.

Question: How should offerors present the total FFP Phase-In price? Please clarify if the Phase-in Price is part of the evaluated price for each offeror.

Reference: Section L.14

Answer: See Exhibit 8 Phase-In. Phase in Price is part of the evaluated price for each offeror.

Question: Will Attachment D (List of Installation Accountable Gov't Property) be included in the final RFP?

Reference: Section G.4 1852.245-71 IAGP (JAN 2011)

Answer: Yes.

Question: Please consider removing the referenced reporting requirement. Monthly 533 submittals are very labor intensive and are comparable to accomplishing monthly EVMS reporting on all Task Orders and CLINs, to include variance analysis. This level of financial reporting is very costly and time consuming to prepare and submit.

Reference Section G.9 GSFC 52.242-90 Financial Management Reporting (JUN 2014)

Answer: 533 reporting is required on all cost contracts over \$500K with a period of performance of a year or more.

Question: Please consider removing the referenced FAR Clause 52.219-16 Liquidated Damages. Compliance with this standard, and the Small Business Subcontracting Plan in Section L.13 Subfactor C, lists NASA's expectation for the Contract's Small Business Goals.

Reference: Section H.6 GSFC 52.219-90 Small Business Subcontracting Plan and Reports (FEB 2014)

Answer: This question has been rescinded by the asker.

Question: Please consider revising the stated, "Within 14 calendar days after receipt of the Contracting Officer's request, the Contractor shall submit a task plan conforming to the request." To 15 business days. This will provide the contractor a more reasonable amount of time to prepare, review, and garner internal approvals before submission to the GSMD-2 Contracting Officer.

Answer: The stated receipt time will remain 14 calendar days.

Question: Please specify the planned period of performance offerors should assume during the development of our cost proposal.

Reference: RFP- General

Answer: The Effective Ordering Period for the intended contract is: March 1, 2017 – February 28, 2022.

Question: Please clarify – the enclosure labeled BB does not appear to be correct, the attachment labeled DD appears to be BB, the one labeled EE LCATS is actually DD. LCATS do not appear to have been provided with the D-RFP. The attachment labeled BB appears to be an Exhibit.

Reference: RFP- General

Answer: Enclosure BB- Performance Evaluation Plan is correct as is, please check again. Enclosure DD- Past Performance Questionnaire is correct as is, please check again. Enclosure EE- Labor Categories is correct as is, please check again. Enclosure BB- Performance Evaluation Plan is Informational Only and is an Enclosure, not an Exhibit.

Question: We are not able to access the link below for accessing the Goddard Directives. Will applicable Goddard Directives be made available in the open library?

<https://gs279gdmsias.gsfc.nasa.gov>

Answer: Per, H.5 GSFC 52.211-95 GOVERNMENT PREMISES—PHYSICAL ACCESS AND COMPLIANCE WITH PROCEDURES (APR 2013).

Directives may be obtained through a computer onsite or the Contracting Officer

Question: The data provided in the Cost Exhibits is too small and illegible (scanning resulted in fuzzy text) to read.

Reference: All Cost Exhibits

Answer: All have been reposted on January 5, 2016. NASA policy is working on a solution that will allow re-formatting to excel from pdf.

Question: In Section B.1, line item 14, there is a requirement that a Quarterly Safety and Health report be submitted to the NASA Mishap Information System (NMIS). Additionally, NFS 1852.223-70 states that “service contractors shall provide quarterly reports specifying lost-time frequency rate, number of lost-time injuries, exposure, and accident/incident dollar losses as specified in the contract Schedule.” The issue is that there is no location in NMIS to accept this data and so the question is a) if the quarterly report is still applicable, and b) if it is still applicable, how are contractors expected to submit the report?

Answer: The quarterly report is applicable, and the contractor must comply with clause H.7 (GSFC 52.223-91). Note: The six months report does not have any specific format and does not require entry of data in NMIS. All incidents must be entered into NMIS within 24 hrs. When an incident is reported, the contractor must enter in NMIS all the data related to the incident (days away from work, days of restricted duty, dollar losses, etc.). The system takes care of calculating the incident rates. All the contractor needs to do is to enter the man-hours worked in the contract on a monthly basis in NMIS. While the contractor is provided access and trained to use NMIS, they are required to submit a temporary form. (Form can be found in the link under GSFC 52.223-91 under Safety and then Contractor)

Question: Given that position qualifications can take up to 40 pages for the number of labor categories provided, would the Government consider excluding them from the overall 80 pages for Mission Suitability?

Reference: L.10(a) Proposal Format and Organization p. 102
L.13 Mission Suitability Volume Instructions (p. 115)

Answer: This is not being considered.

Question: Would the Government please clarify whether each proposal volume should parallel Section L or the evaluation factors listed in Section M?

Reference L.10 Proposal Preparation – General Instructions p. 103

Answer: Section L.

Question: Since the instructions for the risk management discussion are a part of Subfactor A – Technical Approach, can the Government please clarify whether the risks selected should span the breadth of the entire contract scope (i.e. technical and management risks) or be solely technical approach related risks?

Reference L.13 Mission Suitability Volume Instructions Subfactor A Technical Approach p. 111

Answer: Technical risks should be discussed in in Subfactor A.

Question: This clause requires that the offeror to list any hazardous material to be delivered under this contract. Would it be possible to provide a listing of applicable GSFC areas where GSMO II work will be performed so that a current inventory of hazardous materials can be obtained from HMMS?

Reference: I.11 Clause 52.223-3 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL IDENTIFICATION AND MATERIAL SAFETY DATA (JAN 1997) - ALTERNATE I (JUL 1995) (p. 63)

Answer: No listing of areas will be provided. The clause discusses delivery of hazardous material handled at the task level. The handling of existing hazardous material on site is a different matter entirely and is immaterial to the clause or work on GSMO-2.

Question: There are significant references to ground software development, simulator development, tool development, etc. The list of NPRs, GPRs is missing the NASA Software Engineering Requirements, NPR 7150.2B reference. This appears to be an oversight since all NASA software development must follow this NPR.

Reference: SOW intro p. 3

Answer: NASA Software Engineering Requirements (NPR 7150.2B) is not considered an "applicable document" to the overall contract SOW. Note that GSMO-2 is primarily an operations contract. Any specific software engineering certification requirements will be issued at a task level, not contract level.

Regarding the "applicable documents list" in the GSMO-2 SOW, the list will include three additional references:

GPR-5340.2 (Control of Process Nonconformances),

GPR-5340.4 (Problem Reporting and Problem Failure Reporting),

GPR-5340.5 (On-Orbit Anomaly Management)

Question: Please clarify that the questionnaire is in fact Enclosure DD to the RFP.

Reference: L15(b) p. 135

Answer: The Past Performance Questionnaire is Enclosure DD.

Question: Please include the following information in the GSMO-2 online library:

- List of GSMO risk registers
- List of property and locations for which contractor is responsible
- Training and certification material for ESMO and SSMO, including process and sample modules
- List of current TAAs
- Operational milestones or schedules for all missions supported by GSMO
- Current schedules for all ongoing (Ground Systems or Flight Software) development projects and in work action items

Answer: The e-Library will contain some but not all of this information.

Question: We could not successfully export the PDF files into Excel. It appears the Exhibit documents were scanned thus creating graphical images of each page that cannot successfully be converted into an Excel file. Please provide an Excel file.

Reference L.14.1, Exhibits 1-12 p. 123

Answer: Procurement Policy is working on a version of these documents that will export successfully to Excel.

Question: Recommend that the Exhibits be consolidated into a single file. This will benefit the government by having all data in single file. It will also better ensure that any links between Exhibits are in the same file and not from an outside file.

Reference L.14.2 E

Answer: The recommendation is noted and will be considered.

Question: Could GSFC release Enclosure CC before final RFP is released so we can identify categories for which no incumbent labor rates are provided? This will help us find and/or develop the optimal rate for these categories in a timely manner.

Reference: Enclosure CC Incumbent Direct Labor Rates

Answer: Enclosure CC was released January 5, 2016 on the www.fedbizopps.gov website

Question: Per FAR 31.203 an indirect cost is any cost not directly identified with a single, final cost objective, but identified with two or more final cost objectives. By definition, we cannot accurately identify the hours specifically associated with indirect support to the GSMO-2 contract. We request that this requirement be removed.

Reference: L.14 2 (a)

Answer: The requirement is a request for an estimate. There is no intention to remove this requirement.

Question: There is a large portion of the GSMO-2 SOW that covers Ground Systems Development and Sustaining Engineering for critical space assets (i.e. WBS 2.4 Ground System Development, WBS 3.7 Sustaining Engineering). However there is no requirement in the SOW for applicable quality standards and certifications such as CMMI Level 3 or AS9100. In order to reduce risk would the Government consider adding these requirements to the GSMO-2 SOW?

Reference SOW

Answer: GSMO-2 is a support services contract. Any software development or supplies are ancillary in nature. CMMI (a software development quality standard) and AS9100 (Aerospace Supply Standard) do not represent a necessity on a majority of the contract and if necessary will be addressed at the task level.

Question: Could the Government please provide specific examples of subscriber provided applications?

Reference: SOW 3.74 System Admin and IT Security. P. 11

Answer: Subscriber provided applications refers to the potential requirements for providing system administration to mission software/systems provided by that mission. Examples include government provided systems used as part of the ground system, as in a mission planning system, or a telemetry trending system, etc. In all cases, these requirements will be identified by the specific task order.

Question: Can a significant subcontractor submit their Past Performance in a sealed packaged (within the page limitations) due to proprietary information in the contents of the write up?

Answer: Yes.